U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Marketing Services
Marketing Reports Division
821 Market Street, Room 700
San Francisco 3, California

July 3, 1945

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
Wartime Food Bulletin
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Eggs - As egg production declined, demand from civilian and governmental agencies increased, causing the supply situation to be very tight.

Butter - Market continued firm, but retail sales have slackened due to the lack of red points and high temperatures.

Poultry - There is no let up in demand for dressed poultry. The announcement by the OPA of new ceiling prices for poultry on a country zone basis caused considerable comment; however, general opinion was that price changes were considered to be of minor importance.

MEAT

Beef - The general demand for beef was fairly broad as the daily supplies continue very light. Quality of steer beef was largely Good.

Lamb - Quality of lamb is of much wider range with more liberal offerings of Utility and Commercial grades. All grades are finding a ready clearance on a strong market.

Pork - A very light volume of pork cuts moved on a strong market.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The receipts of apricots have dropped off. Good quality loganberries are arriving. Quite a few boysenberries are available. Other berries are in light supply. More new apples are arriving, but the supply is still light. White Astrachans are lower. Avocados are scarce and high. The supply of cantaloups is increasing. Better quality cherries, coming from Santa Clara and Santa Cruz county, are selling at ceiling. Figs are somewhat lower. Black Mission figs are quite plentiful. Very few grapes are available as yet. Nectarines are in lighter supply and higher. Yellow flesh peaches are arriving from the north San Joaquin Valley. Better quality of all varieties of peaches are at ceiling. There are quite a few plums on the market with a fairly wide price range. The supply of watermelons is not great enough to meet the demand.

Tomatoes are in moderate to liberal supply and slightly higher. Squash is in moderate supply. Snap beans and cucumbers are slightly lower due to a change in ceiling. Asparagus is in light supply and considerably higher. Artichokes are scarce and high. Cauliflower is scarce and the quality is poor. Corn is fairly plentiful and slightly lower. Peas are scarce with all qualities at ceiling. The supply of green peppers has increased. Potatoes are a shade higher. Cabbage is lower. There is no change in supply or price of onions, lettuce, carrots and spinach.

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July 10, 1945

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
Wartime Food Bulletin
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Markets continued firm at wholesale price levels. Retail sales continued to lag rather sharply due in part to lack of red ration points and summer heat.

Eggs - The decline in sales of eggs from week to week is larger than the decline in production.

Poultry - The arrival of live poultry last week was interrupted by the holiday on Wednesday and average receipts per day were quite light. Distributors of dressed poultry were unable to satisfy the demand.

MEAT

Beef - The general demand for steer and cow beef was very broad and daily supplies available had ready outlets. Quality continued in the Good and Commercial range.

Lamb - A more liberal slaughter of lamb was featured with spring lamb making up the general bulk of the daily kill. Quality was in rather narrow range of Good and Choice.

Pork - There are scant supplies of pork on a strong market.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Cantaloups, figs and peaches are best buys of the fresh fruits this week. There are quite a few more apples of the Gravenstein variety. Apricots are in moderate supply and a little lower. Honeydew melons are in better supply and a little lower. Avocados and cherries are scarce and high. Currants are a little higher. Grapes from the Coachella Valley are at ceiling. All citrus fruits are in moderate supply. Nectarines are a little higher this week. Plums are quite plentiful. Watermelons are scarce, but a little lower due to a change in ceiling. There is no change in berries.

Carrots and tomatoes are the best vegetable buys. Tomatoes are quite a bit lower. Asparagus is high and there is very little available. Snap beans are in light supply and selling at ceiling. Peas and spinach are scarce and high. Good quality celery is high, but poorer quality is quite cheap. Peppers are in light supply and at ceiling. Cucumbers are scarce and at ceiling price. Eggplant is lower. Lettuce is lower and fairly plentiful. Potatoes are selling at ceiling. Summer squash is lower. There is no change in sweet corn or onions.

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July 17, 1945

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
Wartime Food Bulletin
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - The reduction in red point values for creamery butter from 24 to 16 points a pound is expected to increase consumption of butter by civilians to a point where supplies will move steadily out of retail outlets and prevent accumulation of stocks all along the line.

Eggs - The demand for eggs at retail level has been slightly affected by the shortage in sugar supplies. However, demand is in excess of available supplies because of declining production.

Poultry - Supplies of live poultry available for dressing plant operations were negligible. Supplies of dressed poultry for civilian use were meager, as most of them were being used to fill government or War Shipping Administration orders.

MEAT

Beef - The available offerings of beef found fairly broad outlets and supplies were somewhat more evenly distributed with the local trade.

Lamb - Lamb made up a large volume of the daily meat kill. The quality was fairly broad with all finding an early clearance.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Cantaloups, peaches and plums are the best fresh fruit buys this week. Mid-summer varieties of peaches are beginning to arrive with a few Elbertas and early Hales making an appearance. Early Bartlett pears are just starting, and selling at ceiling. Apricots are in moderate supply and will be available for canning for about two more weeks. There are more Gravenstein apples from Sonoma County on the market at a slightly higher price. White Astrican apples are a little lower. Avocados are scarce and high. The cherry season is nearly over. Those available are from Oregon and some from Santa Cruz county. Figs are in moderate supply and a little higher. Watermelons are selling at ceiling. Due to a very active demand they are scarce. There is no change in berries or citrus fruits.

A good supply and at a slightly lower price makes Italian and summer squash the best fresh vegetable buy. Asparagus is very scarce and higher. Snap beans are more plentiful, but slightly higher due to the fact the ceiling was removed. Lettuce, carrots and cabbage are higher. Celery is in moderate supply. Corn is in light to moderate supply and a shade higher. Peas are in light supply at ceiling. Green peppers are higher due to the fact the ceiling was removed. Tomatoes are in moderate to liberal supply and slightly higher. Artichokes are scarce and high. Okra is a little lower. Cucumbers are at ceiling. There is no change in spinach, potatoes and onions.

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July 24, 1945

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
Wartime Food Bulletin
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - The reduction in point values has improved retail demands. Supplies were adequate to meet the rationed demand.

Eggs - The supply situation appears to be at its worst, and some distributors expect to use storage stocks as price advances justify.

Poultry - The market held extremely firm for dressed poultry. Most of the available supplies were used to fill government orders and very little was used for civilian needs.

MEAT

Beef - There was a little more liberal supply of cow beef on a fully steady market. Quality was in a rather narrow range of Good and Choice, with all finding ready outlets.

Lamb - The lamb slaughter continued to make up a rather large volume of the daily kill in many slaughtering plants. Quality was in somewhat wider range, with an early clearance for all grades.

Pork - Small scattered lots moved on a strong market.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Mid-summer varieties of peaches are the best fresh fruit buy this week. Not only are they more plentiful, but they are selling a little below ceiling. Apples are fairly plentiful. The apricot season is winding up fast and this is about the last call for canning. Cantaloups are in fairly liberal supply, but a little higher due to strong demand. There are only a few Oregon cherries on the market. Quite a few Bartlett pears are available at ceiling or a little below. Bananas are moving readily at ceiling. There is no change in avocados, berries, figs, citrus fruits and plums.

Snap beans, cucumbers and summer squash are all in heavy supply and low priced. Tomatoes are in liberal supply, but there has been no price change due to heavy demand. Artichokes and asparagus are scarce and high. Cabbage is a little lower. Good corn is fairly high while the poorer grade is considerably lower. Peppers and eggplant are more plentiful and lower. Peas are in light supply with good quality selling at ceiling. Spinach is slightly lower. There is no change in celery, lettuce and potatoes.

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July 31, 1945

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
Wartime Food Bulletin
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Due to ration point reduction, retail sales of butter have increased, but current receipts are sufficiently heavy to maintain storage stocks.

Eggs - The production of eggs continues to decline, but the actual volume moving into retail outlets did not fully reflect the drop in receipts, due to the use of cold storage eggs and the arrival of eggs from the Central Western States.

Poultry - The demand for dressed poultry continues to far exceed the supply.

MEAT

Beef - There was a little larger volume of beef in many retail outlets. The quality continued to be made up largely of Good in the steer and heifer division, with some Commercial grade.

Lamb - There was a slight increase in slaughter, with output finding a ready early clearance. Quality was mostly Good and Choice.

Pork - A very scant supply of pork cuts to meet a very broad demand.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Cantaloups are the best buy among fresh fruits this week, and are lower due to a change in ceiling. Cranshaw, Persian and Honeydew melons are all making an appearance on the market. The cherry season is over. There are only a few figs available due to in-between-season harvesting. Apples are fairly plentiful. Apricots are nearly gone. Grapes are in light supply, but lower due to a change in ceiling. Nectarines are a little lower. There is a good demand for peaches and the supply will be good for the next few weeks. There are quite a few Bartlett pears on the market. Watermelons are in moderate supply. There is no change in avocados, berries, citrus fruits and plums.

Snap beans, cucumbers and squash are the best fresh vegetable buys. All of these vegetables are in good supply and lower. Good quality celery is high. Sweet corn is in moderate supply and a little lower. There are very few dry onions, but the new crop will be along in a few days. Green peppers are lower and in good supply. This week tomatoes are selling almost at ceiling with a very heavy demand. The cauliflower available is of rather poor quality. Eggplant is in good supply. Potatoes are in moderate supply and selling at ceiling or just under. There is no change in cabbage, spinach and lettuce.